

BOMBING EPIDEMIC SPREADS

Six are Intercepted After Four Persons Killed by Explosive Packages; one Reaches Destination

Seattle man one Victim as Sounding of Horn Bursts Death Device; Associated Press is Addressed

SEATTLE, Dec. 31—(AP)—Kenneth E. Churchill, 30, victim of a bomb plot in which such a device was placed in his automobile and exploded when he sounded the horn, died at a hospital late today.

The explosion occurred yesterday morning, while Churchill, a building contractor, was driving along the city streets. He received a fractured hip, leg and arm and his car was wrecked.

(By The Associated Press)

Internal machines dispatched through the mails and by express cast a New Year's eve pall over a

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BOMB THREAT ENDS IN MAN'S CAPTURE

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 31—(AP)—A shabbily dressed man who late today placed a suitcase full of explosives on the desk of Vice-President Tracy G. Hall of the Security-First National bank and demanded \$200,000 was knocked down by the bank official and subsequently captured.

Members of the police explosives squad who examined the suitcase said it contained enough dynamite to destroy a city block. From a button on the handle, wire led to a battery and a glass jar of gasoline.

The man struggled to his feet and, abandoning the suitcase, ran from the bank into a crowded business street. He was overtaken and captured. On the way to jail he made three attempts to escape.

He gave the name of Timothy P. Blevens, 24, unemployed kitchen worker.

CHINESE PLAN TO DEFEND CHINGCHOW

NANKING, China, Dec. 31—(AP)—Eugene Chen, China's new foreign minister, told the Associated Press today that the government is determined to defend Chingchow against any Japanese attack.

Manchuria never can be independent, he said, because the 30,000,000 Chinese who produce the wealth of that territory have made it so vital a part of China that it never can be separated.

"We will assume all the responsibility for the Manchurian affair," he said, "and after the cabinet is inaugurated tomorrow we will repeat our order to Chang Hsueh-Liang to stand his ground at Chingchow."

Marshal Chang never got an order from Nanking to evacuate, said the foreign minister, but was repeatedly told to stay there and as late as last night was instructed to defend the city.

BUSINESS ARRIVES WITH LOUD 'BANG'

Business came in with a bang yesterday for the Salem Seed and Implement company, 210 State. Here's how:

When J. I. Bliven, Gervais, started to back away from the curb in front of the building, he got his foot on the wrong gadget in the old Model T.

He spurred ahead in big time; in fact, so fast he couldn't get stopped until he drove right through the closed double doors at the north side of the building. The doors were smashed, and that was the extent of the damage. However, the car barely missed by a foot a man perched high on a ladder and painting a sign on the building.

And there's another angle: Bliven's son sells insurance of many varieties, but Bliven didn't have any to help him settle the damages.

Scram, Single Men! It's Leap Year and You're on the Spot

Women Privileged to Propose; Some Nations Have Sanctioned Custom by law; Resolutions Also Abound at This Season

A NEW YEAR of 366 days faces the people whose calendar is arranged according to the Georgian reckoning of time. Julius Caesar in 46 B. C. settled the solar year to 365 days and 6 hours. Each fourth year there is an extra day and this is added to February, and for some queer reason too obscure to do aught but speculate upon, this year of 366 days is called "leap year."

CITY APPOINTMENTS DUE MONDAY NIGHT

Contest for City Attorney Job Looms, no Others Seen as Probable

Whether or not present municipal officials will be reappointed for 1932 when the council meets next Monday night is a question the majority of the aldermen prefer to keep up their sleeves.

Interviews with them this week revealed three prevailing groups: those who are satisfied with present officials, those who hint at change but refuse to make any definite statement and those who say they have not yet thought about the matter.

The only office which appears to be due for contest is that of city attorney. Friends of William H. Trindle, incumbent, assert his reappointment is certain. Rumors are about, however, that at least four other candidates for the office are in the running. They are: Lars Bergsvik, Brazier C. Small, Carl T. Poljima, who served in Williams, who served in Williams.

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With the year also goes another queer heritage—it is supposed to be the time when it is correct for women to propose wedding to the men. How this came about is another secret of mythical history. It is a fact, however, that the idea was taken so seriously that in 1288 Scotland formed a statute which made it legal for unmarried women of both high and low estate to propose marriage to eligible men. If said man refused he was fined unless he could show that he was bound to another woman.

Were that fine a matter of record in the law of the United States, less noise would be made and less encouragement would be given to the women of the states to use their prerogative in leap year. To be fined because "no" was the answer might stimulate divorce rates which apparently are in need of a sedative.

In the 15th century France made this leap year right of women a part of its statutes as did Genoa and Florence. Women of those days must have been made of the stuff of Pankhurst.

New Year's in the United States shares with Christmas the distinction of being the only holiday to be observed in all states, territories and provinces of the government. It is now almost internationally observed because of the near uniformity of calendars of the world. However, the Jews

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FURTHER SLASH IS EFFECTED IN POLK'S BUDGET

Second ten per Cent cut in Deputies' pay Voted at Taxpayer Meet

County Court's Allowance Reduced; Roads Item Remains Intact

DALLAS, Dec. 31—(Special)—Standing room was at a premium Thursday in the county court room, when taxpayers of Polk county gathered to consider the 1932 budget. From the very beginning a determination to cut every item wherever possible was evident. This in spite of the fact that the budget committee had made large reductions including a 10 per cent cut in salary for all county employees.

Amendments and amendments to the amendments and reconsideration of motions, marked the hearing over which R. M. Walker, chairman of the budget committee presided in the morning, and E. C. Kirkpatrick, member of the governor's tax committee in the afternoon. Frequent personalities were indulged in by H. G. Black, county clerk, and G. L. Hawkins, county judge, concerning various county functions and allocation of funds.

C. L. Starr, prominent tax attorney of Portland was in attendance, representing various interests as well as his own, and spoke several times on various items in the budget, especially in regard to the form in which the budget was prepared and the difficulty of the average person in understanding the taxation problem unless all the fiscal facts were well presented.

An additional ten per cent re-

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State Roads In Use Again After Storm

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 31—(AP)—Snowplows tonight had opened to motor traffic nearly all Oregon highways that were blocked by recent blizzards. Most of the storms had abated.

Roy Klein, state highway engineer, said slides reported along the coast have not interfered with traffic.

Pendleton reported unsettled weather tonight with more snow expected. A blizzard was reported from the Blue mountains.

Nearly seven feet of snow had fallen on Cascade summit during the past four days. Snow was falling there today at the rate of two inches an hour.

The Willamette river at Eugene rose to eight feet, the high mark of the year. The flood stage is 12 feet.

CHINESE STUDENTS WILL RETURN HOME

Group Here Plans Trip and Will Serve Homeland But may not Fight

An anxious group of Chinese students here is awaiting the arrival of one, Mr. Ying, formerly a student in the University of Michigan, who coming by way of Washington, D. C., is to meet two other students in Salem and with them sail for China where they plan to enter the service of their government should war with the Japanese continue.

T. S. Wans, senior here in the university and graduate of a university of his own country where he has achieved recognition as a poet and philosopher, is a student in this country under a scholarship from the Manchurian local government. His home is in Port Arthur but he plans to go directly to Peking to governmental head-

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JAPANESE ONLY 15 MILES FROM CHINGCHOW GOAL

Chang's Defenders Rush for Safety Behind Wall; Confusion Great

Foreign Minister Declares No Evacuation Orders Given to General

(By The Associated Press) Fifteen miles from Chingchow on the banks of the Taling river the Japanese general, Jiro Tamon halted his advance guard last night and brought up the rest of his division presumably for the final thrust on Chingchow.

Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang's Chinese defenders were in disorder retreat, piling down toward the Great Wall by the thousands, leaving only a small garrison to protect the government functionaries who remained behind.

At Nanking Eugene Chen, the new foreign minister, asserted the government never had ordered evacuation of Chingchow, but, on the contrary, had told Marshal Chang repeatedly to stand his ground. That order will be repeated today he said.

From Tientsin, however, came Japanese reports that the Chinese government at Chingchow had shifted its seat to Luanchow, a few miles inside the Great Wall.

Clackamas Will Lower Tax Levy

OREGON CITY, Ore., Dec. 31—(AP)—The Clackamas county court announced today the tax levy for 1932 will be 24 mills, a reduction of 6.7 mills from the 1931 rate.

Joyous Celebrations Greet Baby 1932; No Undue Revelry Here

INCREASED FREIGHT RATES APPLY SOON

Boosts of 6 to 20 per Cent Do not Apply to Many Oregon Products

Under an order issued Thursday by Charles M. Thomas, state utilities commissioner, increased freight rates ranging from six to 20 cents per ton, which were approved in a recent order of the interstate commerce commission affecting interstate shipments, will become effective intrastate on Oregon railroads January 4.

The railroads originally asked for a flat increase of 15 per cent on all shipments, but this was refused by the interstate commerce commission. The commission then authorized the carriers to make small increases in its rates and charges upon certain designated commodities during a limited period ending March 31, 1933.

These limited increases were contingent upon the submission and approval of arrangements by the carriers for the pooling of the revenue accruing from such authorized increases so as primarily to enable them to meet their fixed interest payments as they mature. On November 19, 1931, the carriers filed with the interstate commerce commission a petition in which they declared the so-called "pooling" plan to be unworkable and offered a substitute plan.

On December 5, 1931, the inter-

Noisemaking is Chief Outlet; Only one Arrest in City

Coast Joyousness cut Down Somewhat by Fear of Raids

Whoop! Squak! Slam! Bang! At private gatherings, in dance halls, and theatres, shouts of greeting to young 1932 rattled the roofs as the minute hand touched and passed the zero hour between a gloomy year and a spanking new one to which they could look forward with hope.

The 1931-1932 celebration of the new year in Salem, however, was far from a rowdy one in comparison with former years. The police reported the city generally behaving itself or at least not seriously disturbing the peace.

The last arrest of 1931 became the fate of Irwin Gaskill, 669 North Front street, whom city police alleged had in his possession a pint of moonshine. As the alleged violation occurred in 1931, his 1932 slate is unblemished. A few bottles lying in gutters testified to one type of amusement indulged in by the celebrators.

Noise and whoopee had their place in the observance of the appearance of a new year but in many churches 1932 was ushered in solemnly and reverently with hymns and prayers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31—(AP)—Revelry of the welkin ringing variety, colored here and there with a touch of oriental festivity, ushered 1932 out of existence in most of the leading cities of the Pacific coast tonight.

From Hollywood to Reno and on northward to the Canadian border it was what peace officers described as a big night, with federal prohibition agents acting in most cases as "official observers." About the only sign of inflation was the balloons. The cost of celebrating was down in many large hotels and they entertained to capacity except in scattered cases.

In Seattle, however, two of the leading hotels cancelled all reservations after their plans for celebration had been completed and virtually all places taken. There were similar cancellations in Tacoma. The reason assigned was that liquor raids were feared.

Wet Year is Closed With Final Flurry

Yes, it was a wet New Year's Eve—don't get the statement wrong—wet under foot and from rain which has fallen this month in such quantity as to cause comment and help swell the total rainfall of 1931 to 8.49 inches more than the year previous.

From all indications there will be more of the same deluge for at least the first days of the new year. Rain is expected today in as much quantity as fell Thursday. Expectancy is not to be depended upon however, and New Year's day may be dry after all.

The comparison of rainfall between the months of 1931 and that of 1930 reads:

	1930	1931
January	3.93	8.75
February	6.43	3.46
March	1.93	6.69
April	3.95	3.38
May	1.75	.78
June	.98	8.35
July	.01	0
August	.01	1.59
September	2.03	4.17
October	1.92	4.17
November	3.75	7.38
December	3.30	10.98
Totals	30.4	48.53

The temperature for Thursday was a little with a maximum of 49 degrees, and a minimum of 38. A south wind made the rain seem a bit more persistent in wetting through whatever it touched.

Weevil Infested Cauliflower Not Acceptable Here

Three carloads of cauliflower, consigned to Portland and Medford from Alameda county Calif., were rejected by state inspectors Thursday when it was found that the product was infested by weevil. The laws provide that the cauliflower shall be destroyed or shipped out of the state.

Max Gehlar, director of the state agricultural department, said the cauliflower apparently had not been inspected at the point of consignment, and was shipped into Oregon without the required certificates.

Pictorial Review of March of Events of 1931



One day when Old Father Time is in a reminiscent mood he will, no doubt, look back over his brood of year children and rumble in his beard, "I remember when—" As he skims over the life of child 1931 some of the principal events of that period that will occur to him are pictured above. (1) Depicts a tragedy that shook the nation when Knute Rockne, famous football coach of Notre Dame, was dashed to death in a plane on March 31, near Bascom, Kansas. (2) Willy Post and Harold Gatty accomplished "the impossible" by flying around the world in eight days and 15 hours, starting and finishing the epic flight at Roosevelt Field, New York. (3) The largest dirigible in the world, the U. S. S. Akron, was successfully launched and made her maiden trip at Akron, Ohio, on September 23. (4) Auguste Piccard and an assistant flew to 50,000 feet into the stratosphere in a sealed ball, on May 27, landing in the Austrian Tyrol eighteen hours after their take-off from Augsburg, Germany. (5) On August 27 the huge

German flying boat DO-X came to rest on New York Harbor after completing a flight of 12,000 miles which started in Germany on November 8, 1930. (6) The most impenetrable mystery of the year was the death of Starr Faithfull, beautiful New York society girl, whose body was found on a deserted beach on Long Island. Whether she was the victim of murder, suicide or accident has never been established. (7) The year was remarkable for the number of foreign diplomats who came here to confer with the president. Mr. Hoover is shown in composite with Premier Laval of France and Foreign Minister Dino Grandi of Italy, who discussed international affairs with the chief executive at Washington, D. C. (8) The world lost its most brilliant inventive genius in the death of Thomas A. Edison at his home in Orange, N. J., on October 18, at the age of 84. (9) Depicts an event of great importance to the Catholic church. Pope Pius XI is shown as he delivered the first radio address from the new station

built in Vatican City, February 12. (10) Spain became a republic with the abdication of King Alfonso on April 14. His queen, Victoria, who fled with him, is shown bidding farewell to her courtiers on the French border where she found refuge. (11) A new field of exploration was opened up by Sir Hubert Wilkins, who left Provincetown, Mass., on June 4, on the first leg of the voyage under the Arctic ice in the submarine Nautilus. (12) The world was stirred when Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Nationalist leader, arrived in London on September 12 to attend the Round Table conference, seeking freedom for India. Gandhi visited the King in Buckingham Palace wearing a loin cloth. (13) The dove of peace was again put to flight when Japanese forces invaded Manchuria. (14) On March 21, a catastrophic earthquake overthrew Managua, Nicaragua, when an earthquake shook the city to its foundations, killing approximately 2,000 persons and causing property damage estimated at \$30,000,000, as well as injuring 10,000 of the population.